

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PC-01 AID-05 SCS-03
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 CCO-00 OC-06 OPR-02 USSS-00
SCA-01 A-01 SY-05 FBO-02 /103 W
-----111234Z 123776 /23-12

O 111115Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2212

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

SEC DEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2128

DEPT PLEASE PASS PEACE CORPS WASH DC; USIA FOR IAA, IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PINS, CG, AO, AEMR

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN ATTACK ON ZAIRE: SITREP NUMBER 2

1. FOLLOWING IS ECOND MISSION-WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORT FROM LUBUMBASHI:

2. MILITARY SITUATION.

(A) ENEMY FORCES

(1) HOSTILE FORCES HAVE EMPLOYED THREE AXES OF ADVANCE TO DATE:

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EASTWARD ACROSS THE BORDER TO KAPANGA; EASTWARD ACROSS THE BORDER AT DILOLO CONTINUING TOWARD KOLWEZI; NORTHWARD ACROSS BORDER TO KISENGE THEN TURNING EASTWARD JOINING AXIS TWO TOWARD KOLWEZI.

(2) HOSTILE FORCES PRESENTLY OCCUPY KAPANGA, DILOLO AND KISENGE

(3) FAZ HAS UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT HOSTILE FORCES ARE ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH AN AIRHEAD IN THE KISENGE AREA. AIRCRAFT ARE REPORTEDLY BEING FLOWN IN FROM ANGOLA.

(B) ZAIRIAN FORCES

(1) FRIENDLY FORCES, COMPOSED OF THE 2ND PARA BATTALION AND ARMORED TROOP C, PROCEEDING WESTWARD FROM KOLWEZI HAVE RETAKEN KASAJI, LEAD ELEMENTS HAVE REACHED DIVUMA ACCORDING TO FAZ HEADQUARTERS. FAZ ARMOR CHIEF COLONEL SAMAO CLAIMS THAT 29 OF THE 32 PANHARDS OF TROOP C ARE WORKING, CONTRARY TO AN EARLIER REPORT FROM THE FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE.

(2) ON 10 MARCH, FAZ BEGAN REQUISITIONING GECAMINES TRUCKS TO BE USED FOR TROOP TRANSPORT.

(3) MILITARY POLICE CONTROLS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED ON THE KOLWEZI TO LUBUMBASHI HIGHWAY.

(4) ACCORDING TO GENERAL BABIA, FAZ PLANS TO REINFORCE KAMINA, KOLWEZI AND LUBUMBASHI ON 11 MARCH AS FOLLOWS: THREE BATTALIONS WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE MIKONDO BRIGADE AT KINSHASA AND TRANSPORTED BY C-130 TO SHABA. (ACCORDING TO BELGIAN MILITARY ATTACHE THE MIKONDO BRIGADE HAS HAD NO UNIT-LEVEL TACTICAL TRAINING AND HAS DECLINED IN STRENGTH FROM 4500 TO 2800 AS A RESULT OF DESERTIONS.) EACH OF THE THREE LOCATIONS WILL HAVE THREE RIFLE COMPANIES OF 150 MEN EACH, PLUS COMMAND AND LOGISTICAL PERSONNEL.

(5) GENERAL BABIA HAS RELEASED 100,000 ZAIRES FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUYING FOOD FOR THE TROOPS.

(6) BABIA ALSO SAID THAT MOBUTU HAS AUTHORIZED TWO MILLION DOLLARS U.S. FOR THE PURCHASE OF POL.

(7) COMMANDER OF ALL GROUND FORCES IN THE OPERATIONAL AREA IS GROUND FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL MAMPA. HIS DEPUTY IS SPECIAL MILITARY ADVISOR TO MOBUTU COLONEL KLUKI.

(8) CURFEWS IMPOSED ON LUBUMBASHI, LIKASI, KAMBOVE AND KIPUSHI FROM MIDNIGHT TO 0530 DAILY AND IN KOLWEZI FROM 1800 TO 0600.

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3. DOMESTIC PRESS REACTION:

KINSHASA DAILIES "ELIMA" AND "SALONGO" MARCH 11 FRONT-PAGE GOZ CHARGES, FOLLOWING FIRST MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT 1313 HOURS LOCAL TIME MARCH 10. IN STRONG FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL, "SALONGO" EDITOR BONDO NSAMA VIRULENTLY ATTACKS "THE PAWNS OF LUANDA". BONDO DESCRIBES PRESIDENT NETO AS "ONLY A VULGAR PAWN IN LUANDA", MANIPULATED BY HIS "BOSSES, THAT IS, THOSE WHO HOLD POWER." THE EDITORIAL CONTINUES: "IN THESE CONDITIONS, NETO IS INCAPABLE, SUPPOSING THAT HE WANTS TO, OF FREEING HIMSELF FROM THE GRASP OF THESE FOREIGN FORCES TO WHICH HE MUST CONTINUE TO BE AT THEIR BECK AND CALL."

4. LESS EMOTIONAL "ELIMA" INSIDE ARTICLE RECOUNTS ACTIONS TAKEN THUS FAR BY GOZ TO COUNTER "BARBAROUS AGGRESSION PREPARED IN LUANDA," AND WARNS OF "VERY GRAVE CONSEQUENCES." VOICE OF ZAIRE 0600 HOURS MARCH 11 LOCAL RADIO NEWSCAST LEAD ITEM NOTED "RECAPTURE" OF DIVUMA AND KASAJI. FRONT-PAGE ZAIRE PRESS AGENCY (AZAP) MARCH 11 DAILY NEWS BULLETIN EDITORIAL HEADLINED "TAKE-UP THE CHALLENGE" WARNS MERCENARIES THAT THEY WILL SUFFER THE SAME FATE OF "SCHRAMME AND HIS BAND OF MERCENARIES IN THE KIVU" IN 1967.

ARTICLE NOTES WITH PRIDE THAT FAZ UNITS HAVE PUSHED MERCENARIES OUT OF DIVUMA AND KASAJI, AN "IMPORTANT ROAD JUNCTION BETWEEN DILOLO, SANDOA AND MUTSHATSHA."

5. LOCAL POPULAR REACTION:

SINCE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ATTACKS FROM ANGOLA, KINSHASA HAS REMAINED CALM WITH NO UNDUE ACTIVITY. GENERAL REACTION AMONG POPULATION APPEARS TO BE APATHETIC. THERE ARE SOME WHO SEE THE AGGRESSION AS A MEANS OF SHAKING UP THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THEY ARE BALANCED BY OTHERS WHO FEEL THAT THE FIRST TASK IS TO REPEL THE ENEMY.

6. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION:

FIRST ATTEMPT AT EVACUATION OF AMCITS AT SANDOA MISSION UNSUCCESSFUL. DATT AIRCRAFT DIVERTED TO LUBUMBASHI BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER. METHODIST MISSIONARIES UNDER IMPRESSION SECOND ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TODAY. NINE AMCITS PLAN TO EVACUATE SANDOA IF
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POSSIBLE: PCV'S GLENNA WEINER AND JEAN O'LAUGHLIN; METHODIST MISSIONARIES JOANNE MAUGHLIN AND TWO CHILDREN AND LOIS JACKSON AND ONE CHILD; STUDENTS STANLEY AND RACHEL YODER. CHOOSING TO REMAIN IN SANDOA ARE EIGHT AMCITS: METHODIST MISSIONARIES STAN MAUGHLIN, WARREN JACKSON, FRANK ANDERSON AND BETTY ANDERSON PLUS DERMOT AND ANITA MCHUGH AND TWO CHILDREN. METHODIST MISSIONARY OFFICE IN LUBUMBASHI REPORTS NO RPT NO RADIO CONTACT WITH EIGHT METHODIST MISSIONARIES IN KAPANGA; GOOD RADIO CONTACT WITH SAUDOA AND KASAJI AS OF 0600Z MARCH 11 WITH NO PROBLEMS REPORTED FROM EITHER AREA.

7. EMBASSY AND CIS ACTIVELY FORMULATING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR EVACUATION AMCITS FROM KOLWEZI. EMBASSY KEEPING CURRENT E&E REMAINDER ZAIRE, ESPECIALLY ANGOLAN BORDER REGIONS.

8. PCV'S CAMERON BURN AND KAT MIN LEE LOCATED AT MOMA, IN SOUTHERN KASAI OCCIDENTAL (APPROXIMATELY 100 KM NNW OF KAPANGA) WILL BE ADVISED TODAY BY PC KINSHASA TO WITHDRAW ASAP TO KANANGA.

9. PRESS GUIDANCE:

BETWEEN HOURS 0030 GMT AND 0430 GMT MARCH 11, IO RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALLS FROM UPI (TWICE), NBC (TWICE) AND ABC REGARDING LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLAN ATTACK. QUESTIONS CENTERED ON GOZ CHARGES, US REACTION, STATUS OF MISSIONARIES IN KAPANGA (NBC HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH METHODIST MISSIONARY BOARD IN NEW YORK), US INTENTIONS TO ASSIST MISSIONARIES/AMERICANS IN AREA AND WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE. IO FOLLOWED CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE IN REPLIES. ALL AGENCIES INDICATED WOULD ATTEMPT TO RECONTACT TOWARD 1100 GMT MARCH 11 FOR INFORMATION ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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SAS ID: 3140814
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLAN ATTACK ON ZAIRE: SITREP NUMBER 2
TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PINS, AEMR, CG, AO
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d3dabab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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